Requirement of Additional Judges

†2223. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of judges in the Supreme Court, High Courts, District and Session Courts as against the number of pending cases in various courts in the country at present and how many additional judges are required to dispose of these cases;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of courts and the judges;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The number of Judges in the Supreme Court of India, High Courts in the country and number of Judges/Magistrates in District/ Subordinate Courts and pending cases is as below:

Sl. No.	Name of Court	Sanctioned	Judges in position	Pending cases
1.	Supreme Court of India	26	25	21,716 (As on 21-11-2001)
2.	High Courts	647	477	35,57,637 (As on 31-10-2001)
3.	District/Subordinate Courts	12,737	10,877	2,03,25,756 (As on 31-10-2001) (Except Nagaland)

While there is no proposal to increase the Judge strength of the Supreme Court of India, the Judge strength of the High Courts is reviewed once in three years with reference to the felt-need for disposal of cases, taking into account the backlog and expected future filing. Based on the last review in November 1999, Allahabad, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Patna and Rajasthan High Courts qualified for increase in Judge strength.

Appointment of District Judges and other Judges of the Subordinate Courts is made by Governor of the State in consultation with the High Court exercising

†Original notices of the question was received in Hindi.

jurisdiction in relation to such State under the provisions of articles 233 & 234 of the Constitution of India. Though the filling up of existing vacancies at the District/Subordinate Courts is the concern of the respective High Courts and the State Governments, Central Government have been periodically urging the State Governments/UT Administrations to accord utmost priority to filling up of the vacant judicial posts.

Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs has, in April 2001, requested the Chief Ministers of States as well as the Chief Justices of the High Courts in this regard.

Special courts for trial of foreign terrorists

†2224. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to set-up special courts for trial of foreign terrorists; and

(b) if so, whether such courts will come under the jurisdiction of Army?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Recommendation of National Expert Committee on women prisoners

2225. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Expert Committee on women prisoners headed by Justice Krishna Iyer has recommended establishment of Women's Courts and Naari Bandigriha Adalats in the country to dispense to Women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in the light of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER FOR LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Experts Committee on

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